

# The Communicator—

A Monthly Newsletter for Career Specialists

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## FEBRUARY—JOB SHADOW MONTH

**February is National Job Shadow Month. As you prepare your students to participate, please feel free to use the resources available to you on the Career Specialist Job Shadowing Resources page found here:**

<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/174/JobShadowingResources.cfm>

1. If you need assistance finding placements for students, please work with your Regional Career Specialist and/or Regional Education Center Coordinator.
2. Make certain that you document all student work-based learning activities in the Work-Based Learning (WBL) tab of PowerSchool. For an informational video, visit this link:  
<http://knowitall.scetv.org/career/aisle/guidance/programs.cfm?programID=789>
3. When entering activities in the WBL tab, make sure that you include the beginning and end dates. Data are pulled specifically for the month of February, then for all other months. Perkins funding is tied to February Job Shadowing (as well as other WBL activities).
4. If your district IT/PowerSchool staff does not “empty” the WBL tab at the end of each year, you will need to delete data from the 4 available boxes in order to include your latest WBL activities. If you write-over the data, don’t worry—SCDE CTE collects data in June of every year so your data for last year have already been collected and accounted. Directions to delete the previous year’s data were in the December newsletter.
5. All data should be entered into the WBL tab by early June to accommodate the statewide data pull conducted by CTE.

**“HUMAN BEINGS, WHO ARE ALMOST UNIQUE IN HAVING THE ABILITY TO LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS, ARE ALSO REMARKABLE FOR THEIR APPARENT DISINCLINATION TO DO SO.” --Douglas Adams**

## Fairfield County, Griffins Robotics Team 5327 Receives NASA Grant



The Fairfield Central High School Griffin Robotics Team 5327 was recently awarded the 2014, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Robotics Alliance Project, FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Grant Award. The NASA Grant will enable students to compete in the 11th Annual Palmetto Regional Robotics Competition on Thursday, February 27, 2014 through Saturday, March 1, 2014, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. [Read the full story here.](#)



## Richland 2—Richland Northeast High School Career Day

On Monday, November 25, 2013, Richland Northeast High School hosted its fourth annual Career Day. Seventy-five business people shared their career with 10th - 12th grade students. Students selected three speakers according to their interests and attended those three speakers’ twenty- five minute sessions. All sixteen career clusters were represented, and the students were able to gain knowledge regarding careers and have conversations with those business mentors. Career Specialists, Keredith James and Linda Thompson, wanted to thank their administration for being a school that values career development and wanted to thank the business partners who so graciously gave their time.

## Richland 2— Three Dent Middle School Students Win Local NCDA Contest

The National Career Development Association sponsored its 48th Annual Poetry & Poster Contest in November 2013. Richland District 2 had three local winners from Dent Middle School who were chosen to compete at the state level. Erin Hoback’s graphic art design was the State’s 3rd place winner. [Read the full story here.](#) [For a list of all state winners click here.](#)

## Horry County—Forestbrook Middle School Has NFL Retiree as Speaker

Forestbrook Middle School in Horry County celebrated its annual Career Day with over 100 career presenters. Patrick Rhodes, teammate to Peyton Manning while at Tennessee, talked with student athletes about sports and the importance of education. Mr. Rhodes is now with SiteTech of Myrtle Beach. [Click here](#) to read the full story and see pictures of the speakers.

## Lexington 2—SET Program Wins Award

Lexington School District Two's Student Employability Program (SET) received the SC Program of the Year Award from the SC Division on Career Development and Transition (SC-DCDT.) The award was presented by Dr. Tony Plotner- SC-DCDT President to Lisa Harmon- Director of Special Services, Emmylou Todd- Transition Specialist, and Susie Hatch, Job Developer. The award was presented to the District because Lexington Two has made community-based training a priority for students working toward an occupational diploma. Classroom instruction is designed to prepare students for the work setting while the community training component gives them the opportunity to practice what they've learned in an actual work environment. Lexington Two's Job Developer, Susie Hatch, has worked diligently to establish partnerships with a growing number of community businesses that have resulted in hundreds of training hours completed and part-time employment for several students.

## Laurens 55—Laurens Middle School Completes “Code Course”

*An Hour of Code* is a nationwide effort to increase awareness of careers in the computer science field. Laurens Middle School had twenty eighth grade students to participate in *An Hour of Code* during Computer Science Education Week. At Laurens Middle, the hour of computer coding was coordinated by Career Development Facilitator, Lisa Crisp, and was facilitated by Media Specialist, Kathy Butler. [Read the full story here.](#)

## Lancaster County— AR Rucker Middle School 7th Graders Explore Careers

On November 26, 2013, seventh grade students at AR Rucker Middle School in Lancaster culminated their career research unit in ELA and celebrated National Career Development Month with career cluster presentations to their parents and sixth grade peers. Students researched a chosen career cluster based on SCOIS results and personal interests. In order to gain information about each career cluster, students used print sources, SCOIS, and other related websites, and conducted personal interviews with community members who volunteered to speak about their careers. [Read the full story and see a picture here.](#)

## Professional Development Opportunities:

**FIRST ANNUAL SC School Behavioral Health Conference** - to be held at the Medallion Conference Center in Columbia, SC, April 24, 2014. [Click here for the brochure.](#)

**SC Independent Colleges and Universities Campus Tour** - for high school educational professionals, to be held June 16—19, 2014. [Click here for the flyer.](#) [Click here for the itinerary.](#)

**YesCarolina Sponsors Entrepreneurship Teacher Training** - June 16—19, 2014. [Click here for more details.](#)

**Responding to the Military Child with Exceptional Needs Institute** - March 27-28, 2014 at the Columbia Marriott, Columbia, SC. [Click here for the flyer.](#)

**2014 MCP 101—** June 17-19, 2014. This year’s focus will be STEM careers in the military and will feature the Army, Navy and Air Force. More information forthcoming.

**Law Enforcement and Schools: Safe Schools Seminars—** held throughout the state in 4 locations during March. [Click here to read the details.](#)

## College Grants Available for Students with Disabilities

A new grant is available for intellectual and developmentally disabled students. Students who participate in one of the five eligible College Transition Programs (CTP) in South Carolina may be eligible to receive SC need-based grant funding for up to eight semesters.

During spring 2014, the five eligible CTP programs located at Winthrop, Clemson, College of Charleston, Coastal Carolina, and the University of South Carolina will host information sessions. For more information, please visit the following website, which will allow students/parents to register to receive additional invitations for upcoming events and information. Visit the following site for more details: <http://www.welcometocollegelife.com/>



For more information about the FIRST Robotics Competition, Palmetto Region go to

[www.USFIRST.ORG](http://www.USFIRST.ORG)